

May 27, 1993

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
 President of the Senate
 State House
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 274.

This bill would allow an employee to bring an action against an employer to receive unpaid wages. The bill would authorize a court to award treble damages and counsel fees and other costs to an employee when an employer withholds wages in violation of the law.

House Bill 1006, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 27, 1993, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 274.

Sincerely,
 William Donald Schaefer
 Governor

Senate Bill No. 274

AN ACT concerning

Wage Payment and Collection — ~~Actions by Employees~~ Law — Action for Unpaid Wages

FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing an employee to bring an action for violation of the Maryland Wage Payment and Collection Law under certain circumstances; providing that, after making a certain finding, a court may award a certain amount to the employee; and generally relating to actions by employees for violation of the Maryland Wage Payment and Collection Law~~ providing a private right of action by an employee against an employer who fails to pay the employee in accordance with certain provisions of the Wage Payment and Collection Law; allowing the action to be brought after a certain period has elapsed; allowing a court, under certain circumstances, to award treble wages, counsel fees, and other costs against an employer; and generally relating to wage payment and collection.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article — Labor and Employment
 Section 3-507
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (1991 Volume and 1992 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article — Labor and Employment
Section 3-507.1